

*Department of  
Ecology's*

# CRT NEWS

*June 2003*

Issue No. 3



*Who'd have known our jobs would be like this?*

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## **NEPSI (NATIONAL ELECTRONICS PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP INITIATIVE) COMES TO SEATTLE**

Washington hosts the next NEPSI meeting June 12 - 13, 2003 in Seattle. The group is trying to work out a national system for collection and recycling of computers, TVs, and peripherals, with on-going efforts toward true product stewardship. Many NW participants have been active in the NEPSI meetings around the country for the last year-and-a-half, and are excited about having a meeting here. This meeting will determine whether there is enough interest in continuing work on a national solution for electronic waste. There has been some frustration at the lack of progress, both by industry and government. EPA issued a message recently that they will not continue supporting their staff in this effort if industry is not willing to work with the states on a workable solution. The most viable model at this time is called the "Hyrid Model", which calls for an Advance Recycling Fee (ARF), paid by the consumer at the point of sale for a determined number of years. This would sunset, and switch to a system whereby industry internalizes some of the cost of managing this waste stream. Government would pick up some of the cost of getting e-waste to collection points. Hopefully, the June meeting will result in an agreement on one of the models.

NEPSI website: <http://eerc.ra.utk.edu/clean/nepsi/>

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## WHERE TO RECYCLE YOUR ELECTRONIC DEVICES

### STATE CONTRACT:

General Administration has added **computer recycling** to the fluorescent lamp recycling contract with Eco-Lights (Total Reclaim).

This contract can be used by: All State Agencies, Political Subdivisions of Washington and Oregon, Qualified Non-profit Corporations, Materials Management Center, Participating Institutions of Higher Education (College and Universities, Community and Technical Colleges).

**State Contract No: 11601 Spent Lighting, Computer and Electronic Equipment Collection, Reuse, Recycling and Disposal Services**

To get to the contract, go to

<http://www.ga.wa.gov/servlet/PCAContractDetailSv?contnbr=11601> and click on [Current Contract Information Document](#)

**DONATE: Computers-4-Kids** runs out of the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)

<http://www.k12.wa.us/edtech/surplus.asp>

### DATABASES:

Computer Recovery Project: <http://dnr.metrokc.gov/swd/crp.htm>

Snohomish County Take-It Back Network:

<http://www.co.snohomish.wa.us/publicwk/solidwaste/programs/takeitback/>

Resource Venture database:

<http://www.resourceventure.org/database.htm>

Department of Ecology's Recycle Hotline:

<http://1800recycle.wa.gov/main.asp>

### LOCAL ELECTRONICS RECYCLERS:

PC Salvage: (253) 460-8322, [www.allaboutpcsalvage.com](http://www.allaboutpcsalvage.com)

Phillips Services: (253) 627-7568, [www.philipnow.com](http://www.philipnow.com)

Total Reclaim: (206) 343-7443, [www.totalreclaim.com](http://www.totalreclaim.com)

**MANUFACTURER TAKE-BACK OR RECYCLING PROGRAMS:** *Some also have recycling programs that cover hardware and/or printing supplies. While none of these programs are ideal, many people are glad that the manufacturers are starting to pay attention, and that these programs are an important first step.*

Dell: 1-800-915-3355, [www.dellexchange.com](http://www.dellexchange.com)

Gateway: 1-800-GATEWAY,  
[www.gateway.com/home/programs/recycle.shtml](http://www.gateway.com/home/programs/recycle.shtml)

Hewlett-Packard: 1-800-752-0900,  
[www.hp.com/hpinfo/community/environment/us/usrecycle.htm](http://www.hp.com/hpinfo/community/environment/us/usrecycle.htm)

IBM: 1-888-746-7426,  
[www.ibm.com/ibm/environment/products/pcrservice.shtml](http://www.ibm.com/ibm/environment/products/pcrservice.shtml)

**EPA'S Plug Into eCycling:** <http://www.epa.gov/osw/conserve/plugin/>

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## SUMMARY OF E-WASTE LEGISLATION

Approximately 29 pieces of legislation on the subject of electronic waste have been introduced in 21 states in last two years. Four states, Arkansas, Colorado, Georgia, and New Jersey, have enacted legislation.

### Washington

In Washington, **HB 1492** was introduced by Rep. Cooper this session. The bill, which called for manufacturers to take responsibility for managing e-waste, is currently idle.

The bill declares that every manufacturer must develop, submit to Ecology, implement, and finance the implementation of a plan for the collection and the recycling or reuse of sixty-five percent, by weight, of all electronic waste from its own products each year. The plan must provide and promote convenient, strategically located fixed collection sites to serve urban and rural populations throughout the state. The reports must contain:

- (1) The quantities of electronic products sold by that manufacturer in the state during the previous year;
  - (2) The weight of the electronic waste recovered in the previous year;
  - (3) The weight of recovered electronic waste that is reused;
  - (4) The weight of recovered electronic waste that is recycled;
  - (5) Progress reports towards making more environmentally friendly products;
  - (6) The results of any performance measures included in the plan;
  - (7) Identification of the end markets for collected electronic waste;
  - (8) Educational and promotional efforts that will be undertaken;
- and
- (9) Any other information deemed necessary by the department.

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## CENTRAL REGIONAL E-WASTE COLLECTIONS

Kittitas County is holding an e-waste collection event on June 21. It will be open to the public and to businesses. Chelan and Douglas counties are holding a joint collection for businesses on June 24. Both events will be handled by Total Reclaim, Seattle.

The businesses will pre-register so they know exactly how many computers will be coming in. The participants from all counties will pay for the recycling of the computers. A recent survey of local businesses

showed that most businesses were interested in finding an alternative to throwing away their computers, and showed a willingness to pay for recycling.

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## SEATTLE BANS MONITORS AND TVs FROM GARBAGE

The City of Seattle has joined King and other counties in officially banning monitors and TVs from going into the garbage. The rule applies to residents and businesses, haulers and self-haulers. In King County, there are many recycling and donation options for computer items. Check out the [The Computer Recovery Project's](#) Web site and the [Resource Venture](#) database. For other counties, check the Recycle Hotline.

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## FEDERAL ELECTRONICS CHALLENGE

The Federal Government just introduced their new "Federal Electronics Challenge" (FEC). The FEC is a challenge issued to federal agencies to: purchase greener products, manage electronics in an environmentally sound manner, receive assistance for their efforts, and gain recognition. The overall goal is to reduce the life cycle impacts of purchasing, using, and disposing of electronics. The challenge will be piloted started in May 2003, and will roll out in May 2004

**For More Information:** Federal Electronics Challenge:  
<http://www.federalelectronicchallenge.net/>

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## EPA INVITES COMMENTS ON NEW GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION FACTORS

EPA is inviting comments on a set of draft greenhouse gas (GHG) emission factors for carpets, **personal computers**, and selected building materials. The new emission factors quantify the life-cycle GHG impacts of managing these materials using a variety of waste management practices, including source reduction, recycling, combustion, and landfilling. The draft emission factors are posted on EPA's Climate and Waste Website at

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/oar/globalwarming.nsf/content/ActionsWasteToolsReportsNewEmissionFactors.html>

**Comments:** Please submit comments by June 20, 2003 to Anne Choate at ICF Consulting, email: [achoate@icfconsulting.com](mailto:achoate@icfconsulting.com)

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## DISNEY MARKETS THROW-AWAY DVDs

Just when you think you've seen it all, a Disney subsidiary announces they will sell disposable DVD movies as an alternative to renting. Once opened, the DVD can be viewed for 48 hours, after which time a bonding resin on the DVD reacts to the atmosphere around it, making the disc unreadable. No return trips - you can just toss it in the trash! The company says that renters can mail in the DVD for recycling, but critics say that if people don't want to return them to the rental store, they are unlikely to pay to mail them back for recycling. Called the EZ-D, these discs are headed to a pilot market in August.

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## CAMPAIGN TO RETURN AOL DISCS TO SENDER

Two Californians started a campaign to return 1 million AOL CDs to the company to inform them of the damage the discs do to the environment when discarded. **CDs Collected So far: 179,425**

No More AOL CD's

<http://www.nomoreaolcds.com/>

*The End*